

REMARKS

Claims 2-9, 11-16, and 18-23 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the remarks contained herein.

EXAMINER INTERVIEW

The undersigned would like to thank Examiner Tran for the courtesy extended in the interview of August 10, 2005. During the interview, the Office Action was discussed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-7, 9, 11-14, 16, and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gunderson et al. (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2003/0141965) in view of Delcheccolo et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,784,828) and Lutter et al. (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2003/0212480). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Referring to Claim 2, Gunderson et al. do not show, teach, or suggest memory that stores a plurality of profiles, wherein each of the profiles defines at least one alarm limit for each of a plurality of sensors, as admitted by the Examiner. **Second Office Action, p. 2 (June 14, 2005).**

Delcheccolo et al. also do not show, teach, or suggest memory that stores a plurality of profiles, wherein each of the profiles defines at least one alarm limit for each of a plurality of sensors.

Delcheccolo et al. teach a near object detection system that includes a plurality of sensors to provide detection coverage in predetermined coverage zones. Each sensor is coupled to a bus that provides a communications path between each of the sensors (col. 3, line 44). The sensors are also coupled, through the bus, to a central

tracker / data fusion processor ("processor"), which receives data from the sensors and selectively activates vehicle features based on the received data. For example, the processor may pre-arm an airbag system if an object is detected in close proximity to the vehicle while the vehicle is moving (col. 4, line 58). The processor maintains location information about targets that are currently detected by the sensors. The processor informs a first sensor that an object currently detected by a second sensor is moving toward the zone monitored by the first sensor (col. 6, line 57). The processor also stores data collected by the sensors over time for later use.

The processor taught by Delcheccolo et al. does not store a plurality of profiles, each of which define at least one alarm limit for each of the sensors, as required by the claims. For example, as taught by Applicants, the processor does not store multiple predefined sets of alarm limits for the sensors that are either loaded automatically, when predetermined conditions exist, or manually by a user. Delcheccolo et al. teach that field of view / detection zones or thresholding may be dynamically controlled based on track info from the entire system (col. 5, line 4). However, neither the field of view / detection zones nor thresholding are controlled according to profiles, as taught by Applicants. Delcheccolo et al. teach dynamically adjusting the field of view of a first sensor when an object is currently leaving a zone covered by a second sensor so that the first sensor is likely to detect the object (col. 6, line 57). The field of view of the sensor is not adjusted according to one of a plurality of predetermined profiles. In other words, adjusting or calibrating the settings of a sensor, as taught by Delcheccolo et al., is substantially different and nonequivalent to loading a predefined profile that instructs

the sensor to operate in a specific manner and in a specified environment, as claimed by Applicants.

Lutter et al. do not remedy the shortcomings of either Gunderson et al. or Delcheccolo et al. Lutter et al. teach a mission control unit that includes a collision detection sensor and a processor. The processor communicates with various vehicle devices and initiates specific collision detection events such as contacting a remote assistance service when a collision is indicated by the collision detection sensor (Abstract). A vehicle in which the mission control unit is installed includes infrared and/or radar sensors that detect external objects that come within a particular range of the vehicle. The mission control unit may audibly alert a driver to the detected external object and/or automatically operate the brakes and/or steering wheel in order to attempt to avoid the external object (paragraph [0030]). The mission control unit neither discloses nor suggests storing a plurality of profiles that define alarm limits for the infrared and/or radar sensors, as required by Applicants' claims.

Claims 3-9 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 2 and are allowable over Gunderson et al., Delcheccolo et al., and Lutter et al. for the same reasons.

Referring to Claim 11, Gunderson et al. do not show, teach, or suggest memory that stores a plurality of profiles, wherein each of the profiles defines at least one alarm limit for each of a plurality of sensors, as admitted by the Examiner. **Second Office Action at 2.**

Delcheccolo et al. also do not show, teach, or suggest memory that stores a plurality of profiles, wherein each of the profiles defines at least one alarm limit for each of a plurality of sensors.

The arguments made above with respect to Claim 2 are equally applicable to Claim 11. Accordingly, Claims 11-16 are allowable over Gunderson et al., Delcheccolo et al., and Lutter et al. for the reasons cited above.

Referring to Claim 18, Gunderson et al. do not show, teach, or suggest generating and storing a plurality of profiles, wherein each of the profiles defines at least one alarm limit for each of a plurality of sensors, as admitted by the Examiner. **Second Office Action at 2.**

Delcheccolo et al. also do not show, teach, or suggest generating and storing a plurality of profiles, wherein each of the profiles defines at least one alarm limit for each of a plurality of sensors.

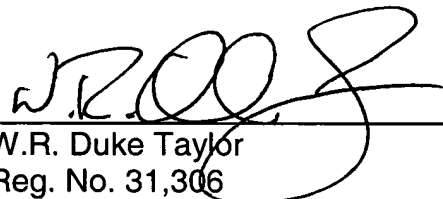
The arguments made above with respect to Claim 2 are equally applicable to Claim 18. Accordingly, Claims 18-23 are allowable over Gunderson et al., Delcheccolo et al., and Lutter et al. for the reasons cited above.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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